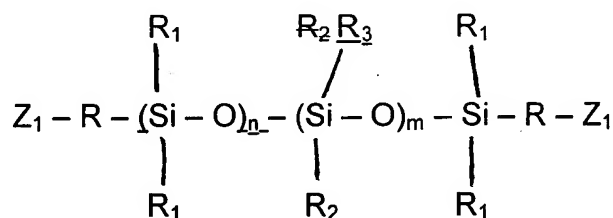


IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently amended): A prepolymer precursor comprising:



wherein the R groups may be the same or different saturated C₁₋₁₀ hydrocarbon substituents; the R₁ groups may be the same or different C₁₋₁₀ alkyl substituents; the R₂ groups may be the same or different selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₁₀ alkyl substituents, C₁₋₁₀ fluoroalkyl substituents, and C₂₋₂₀ alkyl-fluoroalkyl substituents; and the R₃ groups may be the same or different C₆₋₃₀ aromatic substituents; n is a natural number; and m is a natural number greater than 4 representing the sum of siloxane moieties with randomly differing R₁, R₂ and R₃ groups as defined above so as to have a molar ratio of aromatic substituents to alkyl substituents no less than 1:4 such that the prepolymer molecular weight is at least approximately 1000 and refractive index is at least approximately 1.45; and the Z₁ groups may be the same or different selected from the group consisting of -OH and -NH₂.

Claim 2. (Original): The prepolymer precursor of claim 1 wherein at least one of said Z_1 groups is --OH.

Claim 3. (Original): The prepolymer precursor of claim 1 wherein at least one of said Z_1 groups is $-NH_2$.

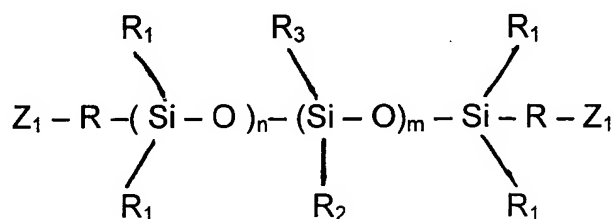
Claim 4. (Currently amended): The prepolymer precursor of claim 1 wherein each R_1 group is methyl and each R_2 R_3 group is phenyl.

Claim 5. (Original): The prepolymer precursor of claim 1 wherein each R group is trimethylene or tetramethylene.

Claim 6. (Currently amended): The prepolymer precursor of claim 1 wherein each R_2 R_3 group is the same selected from the group consisting of phenyl, and naphthyl ~~and methyl~~.

Claim 7. (Currently amended):

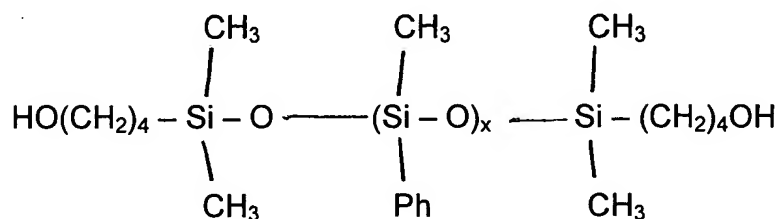
A prepolymer precursor comprising:



wherein the R groups may be the same or different saturated C₁₋₁₀ hydrocarbon substituents; the R₁ groups may be the same or different C₁₋₁₀ alkyl substituents; the R₂ groups may be the same or different selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₁₀ alkyl substituents, C₁₋₁₀ fluoroalkyl substituents and C₂₋₂₀ alkyl-fluoroalkyl substituents; the R₃ groups may be the same or different C₆₋₃₀ aromatic substituents; n is a natural number; and m is a natural number greater than 4 representing the sum of siloxane moieties with randomly differing R₁, R₂ and R₃ groups as defined above so as to have a molar ratio of aromatic substituents to alkyl substituents no less than 1:4 such that the prepolymer molecular weight is at least approximately 1000 and refractive index is at least approximately 1.45; and the Z₁ groups may be the same or different selected from the group consisting of -OH and -NH₂. ~~The prepolymer precursor of claim 1~~ wherein one R₃ ~~R₂~~ group is phenyl and the other one ~~one~~ R₂ group is methyl.

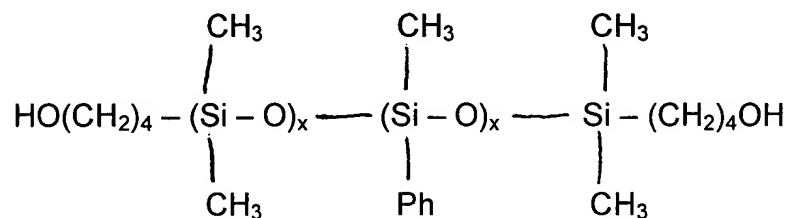
Claims 8 - 27. (Withdrawn)

Claim 28. (Original): A prepolymer precursor comprising:



wherein the Ph groups are the same or different C₆₋₃₀ aromatic substituents and x is a natural number such that the prepolymer molecular weight is at least approximately 1000 and refractive index is at least approximately 1.45.

Claim 29. (Currently amended): A prepolymer precursor comprising:



wherein the Ph groups are the same or different C₆₋₃₀ aromatic substituents and each x is a natural number such that the prepolymer molecular weight is at least approximately 1000 and refractive index is at least approximately 1.45.